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San Diego Police Department Looking for Service-Minded San Diegans to Join SDPD

SWORN AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO BE SHOWCASED AT CAREER EXPO ON APRIL 23

San Diego – Looking to fill positions with service-minded San Diegans, the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) will showcase both sworn and professional job opportunities within the department at the Pave the Way Career Expo in April.

“One of my top priorities as Mayor has been to ensure our San Diego Police Department is supported, well-trained, and responsive to the community. If you’re a service-minded individual who wants to give back to your city and help ensure it remains one of the safest in the United States, we want you to join the dedicated men and women of SDPD,” said Mayor Todd Gloria. **“We’re hoping to do the bulk of our hiring from the talent pool here in San Diego and we have many positions, both sworn and civilian, that would appeal to San Diegans.”**

The Expo will provide an opportunity for potential candidates to learn how they can forge their own path within the department. They’ll learn about the available positions, the hiring process, the academy or other training once hired, and opportunities for promotions or other assignments as they advance in their careers.

“The San Diego Police Department has so many opportunities available across the department for San Diegans to support their families, while serving the city they love,” Police Chief David Nisleit said. **“We want to attract not only diversity in gender and race but also a wide variety of skillsets to our department. I encourage anyone who is interested in joining SDPD to attend this hiring expo and learn more about a great career with our teams.”**

The Pave the Way Expo will feature representatives from various units including S.W.A.T., Communications (dispatch and radio), K-9 Unit, the Homeless Outreach Team and more. Demonstrations from S.W.A.T. and K-9 will be held along with a fly-over from the SDPD Airborne Law Enforcement (ABLE) helicopter. Attendees will also be guided through the Force Option Simulator, where they will get to experience scenarios as a San Diego Police Officer.

New at this event, SDPD will be launching its Blue Arrow Program, which will mentor potential applicants to help them become better prepared for the hiring process.

Often applicants face difficulties in the hiring process related to stable job history, education requirements, driving history, personal conduct such as social media, drug use (including marijuana), and minor arrests or offense history. The Blue Arrow Program aims to assist them in navigating those potential pitfalls well in advance and providing guidance that ultimately will enable them to join SDPD.

In 2019, SDPD launched an aggressive recruitment and retention campaign to attract candidates, and particularly individuals with diverse backgrounds. Efforts include targeted local and national advertising, career fairs and community events, and working with candidates prior to exams and academies to ensure their success. In 2021, the department welcomed its most diverse academies in SDPD history, with nearly 70% being people of color.

The Pave the Way Career Expo is building on the success of a Women's Hiring Expo SDPD hosted last August, which was attended by more than 75 women. It resulted in at least 19 attendees completing the Physical Abilities Test and Pre-Investigative Questionnaire, with 10 entering the academy.

The free event is open to anyone ages 18 and older and will be held on Saturday, April 23 from 8 a.m. to noon. Anyone interested in attending, should email SDPDrecruiting@pd.sandiego.gov to reserve their spot.

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